

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CONAKR 00927 121158Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02
SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11
AID-05 /090 W
-----081459 130623Z /21

R 121030Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4315
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY BANGUI
AMEMBASSY BISSAU
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY KIGALI
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
AMEMBASSY PRAIA
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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E.O. 11652: N/A
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PAGE 02 CONAKR 00927 121158Z

TAGS: PORG
SUBJECT: FRANCOPHONE SUMMIT

REF: PARIS 15008

1. FRENCH AMBASSADOR RAISED QUESTION OF FRANCOPHONE SUMMIT
IN MEETING WITH PRESIDENT TOURE LAST WEEK. LATTER EXPRESSED

PLEASURE AT INVITATION BUT SAID HE WANTED FIRST TO MAKE CONTACT WITH OTHER AFRICAN CHIEFS OF STATE ON A BILATERAL BASIS BEFORE MEETING WITH THEM IN A GROUP. TOURE SAID HE WAS PLANNING TO ATTEND NEXT OAU SUMMIT (IN KHARTOUM THIS JULY).

2. COMMENT: WE HAVE IT FROM ANOTHER SOURCE THAT TOURE IS MORE INTERESTED IN MEETING HIS FELLOW HEADS OF STATE IN AN ENTIRELY AFRICAN CONTEXT AND NOT ONE LIMITED TO FRANCOPHONE STATES. THIS DOVETAILS WITH HIS INTEREST IN AND SUPPORT FOR ECOWAS, WHICH IS PURELY AFRICAN AND CUTS ACROSS LANGUAGE BARRIERS. TOURE REMARKED PUBLICLY AT TIME OF MONROVIA SUMMIT THAT ROAD TO RECONCILIATION IN WEST AFRICA "DOES NOT RUN THROUGH PARIS" BUT LOCAL CAPITALS. RANKING MFA OFFICIAL HAS TOLD US, TONGUE PARTLY IN CHEEK, THAT GUINEA WOULD COTTON MORE TO A "SYLIPHONE" OR "BAMABARAPHONE" (I.E. AFRICAN) MEETING THAN TO PARIS GROUPING, ALTHOUGH RELATIONS WITH FRANCE CONTINUE TO IMPROVE SMOOTHLY ENOUGH. GUINEAN LEXICON HAS TRADITIONALLY REJECTED "FRANCOPHONE" AS NON-AFRICAN; AND APPARENTLY GOG IS NOT READY YET TO REVISE AT LEAST THIS PARTICULAR SHIBBOLETH.
CROSBY

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Message Attributes

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